

## Task Code 195 - VEGETATION MAPPING/GPS PROCEDURES

### PURPOSE

Establish a process for biologists to follow when creating vegetation maps for privately initiated projects using Global Positioning System (GPS) Technology.

### OUTLINE OF PRIMARY STEPS

#### Completed by Biologist

- The 195 task covers time spent in the field walking boundaries and mapping the vegetation using GPS. It includes the time spent coordinating with GIS in post-field data correction and determination of project impact acreage. Also covers post-field processing of information and generation of map.
- Background Research - Review project file and research biological issues on the project site. Print out the Sensitive Species Matrix for applicable sensitive species to take out in the field.
- Fill out GPS Request form
- Field Visit- before going on a field visit, complete the following:
  - Notify the applicant's designated contact that a field visit will occur, the date and time of the visit, and that County Staff will be on-site surveying for a vegetation map.
  - Reserve a vehicle.
  - Take a cell phone for safety purposes.
  - Take a camera to photo-document the site.
  - Sign out the vehicle.
  - Take the: Project file, GPS Unit, Camera, GPS procedures, Sensitive Species Matrix and the Report Format & Content Requirements for Biological Resources.
- In the field:
  - Walk the boundaries of the habitat and collect point data.
  - Take detailed field notes to augment GPS information.
  - Use the provided maps to indicate any areas that were too dense or un-navigable to collect data points, areas of unique features, etc.
- Work with GIS on Post-Field Processing - Immediately upon returning from the field return the GPS unit, field maps, and all field notes to GIS. They will make real time corrections in the data and generate a check plot and the final vegetation map.
- Review Vegetation Map for Accuracy - The final map should fully comply with the Report Format & Content Requirements for Biological Resources, i.e., contain all the habitat types labeled with the Holland Code, the plot plan overlay, and a legend with habitat types and their corresponding acreage.